

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jean-Claude SARFATI

Art Unit :

Serial No.:

Examiner :

Filed : January 3, 2002

Title : METHOD FOR ACCESSING INSTANTANEOUSLY TO PREVIOUSLY
DOWNLOADED DATA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Before examining the referenced application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows [a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached as Appendix A]:

1. (Amended) Method for administrating information in an interactive communication system :

a) following a request for information from a user or resulting from the execution of a program,

- The verification if said information is available in a memory called cache memory,
- The loading of the information from the cache memory when it is available, and

- the loading of the information from a broadcast source when it is not available in the cache memory,

b) and further comprising

- the associating to at least a part of the information of the cache memory of date or duration or validity date data,
- the verification of the duration of validity of an information contained in the cache memory, in response to the request for said information, and
- the loading of the information from the broadcast source if the validity data of the information available in the cache memory is expired.

11. (Amended) Device for interactive communication comprising :

- a unit for processing information,
- a system for downloading information from a broadcast source, in response to a command from the processing unit,
- at least an additional memory for receiving information, for their storage in association with a duration of validity data,
- a system for administering the memory in order to load, in response to a command from the processing unit, information from the additional memory, when this information, having a non-expired validity data, is present in the additional memory.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows [a marked-up copy of the amended abstract is attached as Appendix B]:

The invention concerns a method for administrating information in a system for interactive communication, where the method includes: following a request for information, the verification if said information is available in the cache memory, the loading of the information from the cache memory when it is available, and the loading of the information from a broadcast source when it is unavailable; and the association to the information in the cache memory of validity data, the verification of the validity data, in response to the request of information, and the loading of the information from the broadcast source when the validity data of the information available in cache memory is expired.

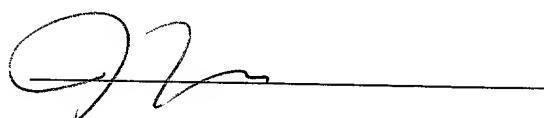
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove reference numbers to the Figures. The Abstract has been amended to remove “comprising” language and reference numbers to the Figures. No amendments have been made for reasons relating to patentability, and no new matter has been introduced by way of this amendment. Full examination and favorable action are requested.

Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591
(Reference No. 11345.041001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/30/2



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APPENDIX A – MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Amended) Method for[to] administrating information in an interactive communication system :

a) following a request for information [(106)]from a user or resulting from the execution of a program,

- The verification [(102, 104)]if said information is available in a memory called cache memory,
- The loading [(110)]of the information from the cache memory when it is available, and
- the loading of the information from a broadcast source when it is not available in the cache memory,

b) and further comprising

- the associating [(114)]to at least a part of the information of the cache memory of date or duration or validity date data,
- the verification of the duration of validity of an information contained in the cache memory, in response to the request for said information, and
- the loading of the information from the broadcast source if the validity data of the information available in the cache memory is expired.

11. (Amended) Device for interactive communication comprising :

- a unit [(23)]for processing information,
- a system [(10, 14, 22)]for downloading information from a broadcast source, in response to a command from the processing unit,
- at least an additional memory [(30) (cache)]for receiving information, for their storage in association with a duration of validity data,
- a system for administering the memory in order to load, in response to a command from the processing unit, information from the additional memory, when this information, having a non-expired validity data, is present in the additional memory.

APPENDIX B – MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED ABSTRACT

The invention concerns a method for administrating information in a system for interactive communication, where the method includes: [comprising :]following a request for information[(106)],the verification [(102, 104)]if said information is available in the cache memory, the loading [(110)]of the information from the cache memory when it is available, and the loading of the information from a broadcast source when it is unavailable[,]; and [further comprising]the association [(114)]to the information in the cache memory of validity data, the verification of the validity data, in response to the request of information, and the loading of the information from the broadcast source when the validity data of the information available in cache memory is expired. [Use for interactive applications. Figure 2]